In the Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A computer system for assisting a medical practitioner, comprising:

medical practitioner input means for receiving new patient data regarding a patient, a diagnosis regarding the patient, and a treatment plan for the patient from a medical practitioner;

first means for accessing ~~using a portion of the new patient data to access~~ a standard diagnosis database to obtain standard diagnosis criteria corresponding to the diagnosis input by the medical practitioner, the standard diagnosis criteria identifying standard criteria for deriving the diagnosis input by the medical practitioner; for comparing the diagnosis and the treatment plan against the new patient data, known patient data and known medical information; and for generating ~~alarms~~ an alarm in response to the comparison if the diagnosis or treatment plan seems is inappropriate ~~or advice regarding the diagnosis or the treatment plan~~; and

second means for communicating the ~~alarms, advice and~~ diagnosis criteria and any alarm to the medical practitioner, thereby enabling the physician to retrospectively consider the appropriateness of the diagnosis or treatment plan; ~~and~~

~~third means for implementing at least a portion of the treatment plan.~~

2.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the first means comprises

a suggest diagnosis means for accessing a suggested diagnosis database to retrieve a suggested diagnosis based on at least a portion of the new patient data; and

a check diagnosis means for comparing the diagnosis to the suggested diagnosis and for generating an alarm if there is a substantial difference.

3.   (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the treatment plan includes a prescription and the first means comprises

a get drug data means for retrieving from a pharmacy one or more drugs in the prescription for the patient and from the known patient data identification of drugs that the patient is taking; and

an interaction checking means for accessing a drug interaction database with (a) the one or more drugs in the prescription for the patient, (b) the drugs that the patient is taking, and (c) the prescription, to produce an alarm if there is an indication of an interaction.

5. (Original) The computer system of claim 4 wherein the interaction checking means comprises

mitigating means for suggesting methods to mitigate the interaction; and

alternative recommendation means for suggesting alternative drugs with no interaction.

6. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the first means comprises

a get patient data means for retrieving the known patient data; and

a find treatment means for accessing a treatment protocol database and using a subset of the new patient data and a subset of the known patient data to determine a recommended treatment protocol.

7. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the first means comprises

a get patient data means for retrieving the known patient data; and

a treatment search means for accessing a treatment recommendation database and using a subset of the new patient data and a subset of the known patient data to determine a treatment individualization recommendation.

8. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the treatment plan diagnosis comprises a prescription and the first means comprises

a get lab data means for obtaining laboratory results for the patient from a laboratory; and

a find dosage means for using the laboratory results, a subset of the known patient data, the prescription and the new patient data in cooperation with a recommended dosage database to produce a recommended dosage for the prescription.

9.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the treatment plan comprises a prescription and the first means comprises

a get drug data means for retrieving from a pharmacy one or more drugs prescribed for the patient and from the known patient data identification of drugs that the patient is taking and foods the patient typically eats; and

an interaction checking means for accessing a drug/food interaction database with (a) the one or more drugs prescribed for the patient, (b) the drugs that the patient is taking, (c) the prescription and (d) the foods the patient typically eats, to produce an alarm if there is an indication of an interaction.

10.   (Original) The computer system of claim 9 wherein the interaction checking means includes a recommendation means for recommending a drug that will not have an interaction.

11.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the treatment plan comprises a prescription and radiology tests and the first means comprises

a get drug data means for retrieving from a pharmacy one or more drugs prescribed for the patient and from the known patient data identification of drugs that the patient is taking; and

an X-ray compatibility checking means for accessing a radiology/drug interaction database with (a) the one or more drugs prescribed for the patient, (b) the drugs that the patient is taking, (c) the prescription and (d) the radiology tests from the treatment plan, to produce an alarm if there is an indication of an interaction.

12.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the treatment plan comprises an order for X-rays and the first means comprises a check X-rays means for obtaining laboratory results from a laboratory and for accessing an X-ray contraindication database with the laboratory results and the order for X-rays to produce a contraindication and to process the contraindication to produce an alarm.

13.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 12 wherein the check X-rays means processes the contraindication to produce a recommendation.

14.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the treatment plan comprises a prescription and the first means comprises

a get drug data means for retrieving from a pharmacy one or more drugs prescribed for the patient and from the known patient data identification of drugs that the patient is taking; and

a drug cost means for accessing a drug cost database with (a) the one or more drugs prescribed for the patient, (b) the drugs that the patient is taking, and (c) the prescription, to produce an alarm if there is an indication that the patient is spending more on drugs than is necessary and to make a recommendation for a lower cost drug.

15.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the first means comprises a check risks means for accessing a risk database to produce a risk reduction recommendation for the patient.

16-22. (Cancelled)

23.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 1 further comprising a personal communicator including a display having

a red alert area, where alarms regarding the potential for a major adverse effect are displayed; and

a yellow alert area, where alarms regarding the potential for a minor effect or need for closer monitoring are displayed.

24-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the first means has access to one or more of the following:

a suggested diagnosis database;

a standard diagnostic criteria database;

a drug interaction database;

a treatment protocol database;

a treatment recommendation database;

a recommended dosage database;

a radiology/drug interaction database;

an X-ray contraindication database;

a drug cost database; and

a risk database.

31. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 1 further comprising wherein the third means comprises an International Classification of Disease (ICD) determination means for processing a subset of the new patient data, a subset of the diagnosis and a subset of the treatment plan to determine an ICD.

32. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the treatment plan comprises a prescription, an order, and an International Classification of Disease (ICD), and further comprising the third means comprises one or more of the following:

a print prescription means for using the prescription to print a prescription form;

an inform pharmacy means for using the prescription to inform a pharmacy of the prescription;

a store data means for storing the new patient data on a hospital computer;

an enter order means for entering the order in a physician order entry system; and

a save ICD means for saving the ICD in a business office.

33.   (Currently Amended) A computerized method for providing assistance to a medical practitioner, ~~the method being accomplished using a personal communicator, a computer processor coupled to the personal communicator through a communications medium, a data storage medium coupled to the computer processor, and resources coupled to the computer processor,~~ the method comprising:

receiving ~~entering~~ new patient data <u>regarding a patient, a diagnosis regarding the patient, and a treatment plan for the patient from a medical practitioner by a</u> ~~into the~~ personal communicator;

using a standard diagnosis criteria database ~~and a portion of the new patient data~~ to determine standard diagnosis criteria, <u>the standard diagnosis criteria identifying standard criteria for deriving the diagnosis input by medical practitioner</u>;

~~entering a diagnosis and a treatment plan into the personal communicator;~~

comparing the new patient data, the diagnosis and the treatment plan against <u>the new patient data,</u> known patient data and against a medical database;

<u>generating an alarm to the medical practitioner in response to the comparison if the diagnosis or the treatment plan seems inappropriate;</u>

<u>communicating the standard diagnosis criteria and any alarm to the medical practitioner, thereby enabling the physician to retrospectively consider the appropriateness of the diagnosis or treatment plan;</u> and

enabling, through the personal communicator, the following actions:

initiating implementation of the treatment plan;

~~displaying the standard diagnosis criteria to the medical practitioner;~~ and

~~displaying an alarm and a recommendation, and~~ allowing the medical practitioner to revise the diagnosis <u>or</u> ~~and~~ treatment plan.

34.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 wherein <u>initiating implementation of</u> ~~implementing~~ the treatment plan comprises one or more of the following

printing a prescription;

informing a pharmacy of the prescription;

storing the new patient data, the diagnosis, and the treatment plan on a hospital computer;

entering an order into a physician order entry system; and

saving an ICD in a business office.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the step of comparing comprises performing one or more of the following actions:

checking the accuracy of the diagnosis;

reviewing standard diagnostic criteria;

checking the appropriateness of prescribed medication;

reviewing recommended treatment protocols;

reviewing individualization recommendations;

recommending dose adjustments;

checking for adverse medication interactions;

checking for adverse food interactions;

checking for adverse medication/radiology interactions;

checking for X-ray contraindications;

checking the cost of prescribed medications;

transferring clinical notes to medical records;

reviewing standard immunization protocols; and

recommending routine screening measures.

37. (Original) The method of claim 34 further comprising accepting clinical notes regarding the patient.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37 wherein accepting the clinical notes comprises recording a spoken rendering of the clinical notes.